



POPULATION

Pima County, within which Tucson is located, was the nation's 68th largest county in 1990, 53rd largest in 2000, and 47th largest in 2004. From 1990 to 2000, the County ranked 27th greatest in absolute change. Only 11 counties larger in population grew more rapidly from 2001 to 2002. Of the 100 largest counties, Pima was twenty-first most rapidly growing from 2001 to 2002, at 2.06%. In 1990, Pima County had a population of 666,880. Based on Census 2000, the April 1, 2000 population was 843,746. The May 2005 estimate is 952,275.

Tucson was the 45th largest U.S. city in 1980, 34th largest in 1990, and 30th largest in 2000. Based on Census 2000, the April 1, 2000 population was 486,699 (see table below). Tucson currently covers 226.552 square miles. The estimated population for May 2005 is 528,098.

YEAR	TUCSON	PIMA CO.
1970	262,933	351,666
1980	330,537	531,433
1985	376,195	611,471
1990	405,390	666,880
1995	442,910	758,585
2000	486,699	843,746
2005	532,350	955,800
2010	592,672	1,060,581
2015	659,829	1,174,900

Tucson grew 20% in population and 24% in area from 1990 to 2000. Of the 243 U.S. cities with populations over 100,000, Tucson's growth was 71st greatest in percent change, and 23rd greatest in absolute change from 1990 to 2000. Only 6 cities larger than Tucson grew at a more rapid rate from 2000 to 2002; nine cities larger than Tucson lost population during the same time period. The Tucson Metropolitan Area was 58th largest in 2000, and only 10 larger metro areas grew faster. Much of the growth over the next 20 years will be driven by working age people moving here for employment opportunities. In 2002, the Tucson urbanized area was 69th most dense of the 141 urban areas with populations over 250,000, in the U.S. and Canada.

Links to Additional Population Information:

- [Census 2000 Factoids](#) (PDF 32KB / 2 pages)
- [Metro Tucson Population: 1870- 2050](#) (PDF 17KB / 2 pages)
- [Pew Hispanic Center Report, Estimates of the Size and Characteristics of the Undocumented Population](#) (PDF 112KB / 11 pages)
- [U.S. Census Bureau Population and Housing Tables](#) (Internet Link)
- [100 Largest Counties: July 1, 2002](#) (Internet Link)
- [100 Fastest-Growing Counties: July 1, 2001 to July 1, 2002](#) (Internet Link)
- [2004 Population Estimates: Arizona Counties and Places](#) (PDF15KB / 2 pages)